

food products of that country, and may be said to be the staple food of the poorer classes. The seed, which is considerably larger than a pea, is encased in short, thick, hairy pods and forms, when roasted, the parched pulse of the East, and for this reason is sometimes known as the Egyptian pea. Chickpeas seem to thrive best in more or less arid regions, and for this reason the soil in the Seville consular district seems to be particularly suitable, owing to the intense heat and dryness of the summer months, and this district, which comprises the provinces of Seville, Cordoba, Cadiz, Huelva, Badajoz and Caceres, produces over half of the chickpeas grown in Spain. In that territory, the sowing is generally done in the month of March, and the crops are usually collected when the plants are perfectly dry at the beginning of August. It is said, however, that this practice is not to be recommended, as chickpeas which dry in the pods before being cut become exceptionally hard and are difficult to cook, as is not the case if they are collected when the plants become somewhat yellow, before they are absolutely dry, and are then piled in small heaps, and left to dry in a granary or well aired room." (Gracey.)

*Cordeauxia edulis* Hemsley. (Caesalpiniaceae.) 43260. Seeds of the Yeheb Nut from Aden, Arabia. Presented by Mr. A. G. Watson, American Vice-Consul, who obtained them from the Acting Governor of Italian Somaliland at Mogadiscio. A tree or shrub whose seeds have a high food value, and form an important article of commerce on the east coast of Africa, where they are eaten by the natives in preference to rice and dates. The plant grows where long droughts occur, the temperatures not going below freezing. It quickly forms a long tap root, has evergreen leaves which stain the fingers magenta when crushed. It might be an excellent plant for the arid southwest. (Fairchild.)

*Enbothrium coccineum* Forster. (Proteaceae.) 43270. Seed from Bariloche, Argentina. Presented by Dr. Joseph Vereertbrugghen. A handsome evergreen shrub, about two feet in height, with oval, smooth, dark green leaves, nearly three inches long. The flowers are bright scarlet, and grow in racemes. This plant is chiefly confined to the Straits of Magellan and Tierra del Fuego, not reaching to Cape Horn. (Adapted from Curtis's Botanical Magazine, vol. 81, plate